

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The June 26, 2004 Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are amended and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication that claims 16 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged and appreciated.

Claims 16 and 17 are not amended in this response to be in independent form in view of the asserted allowability of claim 1 from which claims 16 and 17 are ultimately dependent. If claim 1 as amended is ultimately found to be non-patentable over the prior art of record, Applicants reserve the right to amend claims

16 and 17 to be in independent form to obtain the allowance of these claims.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 4-7, 9, 11, 12 and 17-19 are amended to correct inadvertent typographical errors in the claims, to place the claims in better form for consideration by the Examiner and allowance, and to correct grammatical errors. No new matter is added by the amendments to claims 4-7, 9, 11, 12 and 17-19, and the amendments are not related to the patentability of these claims.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In the Office Action claim 15 is rejected under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In response, claim 15 is amended in a sincere effort to more clearly define the present invention and to overcome the indefiniteness rejection. In view of the amendment of claim 15, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 are respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the Office Action, claims 1-14, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 5,664,243 (Okada et al). Claims 1 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 6,525,767 (Saito et al.). Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada et al.

The present claimed invention as defined by independent claim 1 is directed to an electronic camera system including imaging means, image data generation means for generating image data to be recorded in a recording medium by processing image information which is subject to photoelectric conversion by the imaging means, a first recording medium receiving portion provided in an electronic camera to receive a first recording medium for recording image data generated by the image data generation means, and a second recording medium receiving portion for receiving a second recording medium which has a recording capacity larger than that of the first recording medium and which records the image data generated by the data generation means, in which the first recording medium and the second recording medium are independently detachable. The electronic camera system also includes a first power supply provided in the electronic camera to supply power in writing the image data on at least the first

recording medium, a second power supply having a power supply capacity larger than that of the first power supply, and an electronic camera expansion unit for receiving the second power supply. The electronic camera expansion unit is detachable from the electronic camera wherein the second power supply supplies power to write data on the second recording medium when the electronic camera expansion unit is attached to the electronic camera.

The present claimed invention concerns recording image data generated from image information achieved by photoelectric conversion when imaging an object. More specifically, the present invention concerns independently and freely attaching a first recording medium and a second recording medium, which has a recording capacity larger than that of the first recording medium, and the manner in which the power is supplied.

That is, in the situation where the second recording medium having a larger recording capacity than the first recording capacity is attached to the electronic camera system in order to supplement the insufficiency of the recording capacity, a power supply having a larger power supply capacity than the first power supply can be used.

USP 5,664, 243 (Okada et al.) is directed to a camera, wherein either silver halide film or videotape is selected for

recording an object when imaging. In Okada et al., an image subject to photochemical conversion, which is recorded on the film, and image data subject to photoelectric conversion, which is recorded on the videotape, have different formats. The present claimed invention as defined by amended claim 1 is patentably different from Okada et al. in that the recording format of the image data to be recorded does not change whether it is recorded in the first recording medium or the second recording medium.

Saito et al. is directed to a device wherein a camera body, a memory card and a host are connected in series, and image data can be stored in an image file of the host only when the host is connected with the memory card. That is, the present claimed invention is patentable over Saito et al. in that each of the first recording medium and the second recording medium is independently detachable.

None of the other references of record close the gap between the present claimed invention as defined by claim 1 and Okada et al. and Saito et al., taken either alone under 35 USC 102 or in combination under 35 USC 103.

That is, the present claimed invention as defined by claim 1 is patentable over the references of record because the

references do not disclose, teach or suggest an electronic camera system including:

image data generation means for generating image data to be recorded in a recording medium by processing image information which is subject to photoelectric conversion by the imaging means; and/or

a first recording medium receiving portion provided in an electronic camera to receive a first recording medium for recording image data generated by the image data generation means;

and/or

a second recording medium receiving portion for receiving a second recording medium which has a recording capacity larger than that of the first recording medium and which records the image data generated by the data generation means, in which the first recording medium and the second recording medium are independently detachable;

a first power supply provided in the electronic camera to supply power in writing the image data on at least the first recording medium; and/or

a second power supply having a power supply capacity larger than that of the first power supply; and/or

an electronic camera expansion unit for receiving the second power supply, the electronic camera expansion unit being detachable from the electronic camera, wherein the second power supply supplies power to write data on the second recording medium when the electronic camera expansion unit is attached to the electronic camera (see claim 1, lines 5-29).

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 and claims 2-20 which are either directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1 are patentable over the cited references under 35 USC 102 as well as 35 USC 103.

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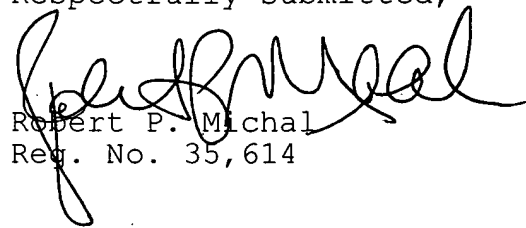
Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

Appln. No. 09/583,011
Amendment dated September 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2004

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Encl.: Petition For Extension of Time